

Amendment to the Claims

1-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A tablet feeder comprising:

a tablet accommodating section capable of accommodating a multiplicity of tablets;

a tablet array member which is rotatably disposed in the tablet accommodating section and which, while being driven and rotated, retains the tablets one after another in pockets defined in an outer periphery thereof such that the tablets can be discharged at a discharge position; and

a partitioning member including a partitioning portion having a plurality of brush elements, the partitioning portion being disposed in the vicinity of the discharge position ~~such that the pockets are partitioned~~ so as to partition the pocket at the discharge position and enter between upper tablets and a lower tablet so that the upper tablets are prevented from falling into a lower portion of the pocket, and thereby the tablets retained in the pockets of the tablet array member are discharged by a predetermined number,

wherein at least two adjacent brush elements among the brush elements constituting the partitioning portion of the partitioning member are connected so as to form a U-shaped tip portion.

9. (New) The tablet feeder according to claim 8, wherein at least one of the brush elements located at an end of the partitioning portion is a linear member.

10. (New) The tablet feeder according to claim 8, wherein the brush elements are tilted toward a downstream side relative to a rotational direction of the tablet array member.

11. (New) The tablet feeder according to claim 8, wherein each of the brush elements has a cross section that is generally oval shape, and a minor axis of the oval shape is directed along the rotational direction of the tablet array member.

12. (New) The tablet feeder according to claim 8, wherein each of the brush elements comprises a plurality of filaments that are held together so as to form the U-shape and the rounded tip.